AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (currently amended): A polarizing film comprising a stretched film containing iodine, wherein an absorbance of said polarizing film comprises an absorption peak A in a wavelength range of 550 to 650 nm and an absorption peak B in a wavelength range of 450 to 520 nm, and an absorbance characteristics ratio of ~~((an absorption peak A in a wavelength range of 550 to 650 nm)/(an absorption peak B in a wavelength range of 450 to 520 nm))~~ (absorption peak A/absorption peak B) is no more than 1.5 when the polarizing film is arranged in a crossed Nicol.

2. (original): A polarizing plate comprising the polarizing film according to claim 1 and a transparent protective layer on one side or both sides of the said polarizing film.

3. (original): The polarizing plate according to claim 2, comprising a hard coating layer on an external surface of the transparent protective layer of the polarizing plate.

4. (original): The polarizing plate according to claim 3, the hard coating layer comprises a transparent particle in dispersed state.

5. (original): The polarizing plate according to claim 2, comprising an adhesive layer for adhesion with other members on one side or both sides thereof.

6. (original): The polarizing plate according to claim 2, comprising at least one of a retardation plate and a brightness enhanced plate.

7. (original): A liquid crystal display having a polarizing plate according to claim 2.

8. (previously presented) The polarizing film according to claim 1, wherein the absorbance characteristics ratio is no more than 1.4.

9. (previously presented) The polarizing film according to claim 1, wherein the absorbance characteristics ratio is no more than 1.3.

10. (previously presented): The polarizing film according to claim 1, wherein the absorbance characteristics ratio is no more than 1.2.

11. (previously presented): The polarizing film according to claim 1, having a stretching ratio of no more than 50%.

12. (previously presented): The polarizing film according to claim 1, having a stretching ratio of from 1 to 20%.

13. (previously presented): The polarizing film according to claim 1, having a stretching ratio of from 2 to 10%.

14. (previously presented): The polarizing film according to claim 1, having a thickness of 5 to 80 μm.

15. (currently amended): A polarizing film ~~wherein~~ having an absorbance comprising an absorption peak A in a wavelength range of 550 to 650 nm and an absorption peak B in a wavelength range of 450 to 520 nm, and having an absorbance characteristics ratio ~~of ((an absorption peak A in a wavelength range of 550 to 650 nm)/(an absorption peak B in a wavelength range of 450 to 520 nm)) is~~ (absorption peak A/absorption peak B) of no more than 1.5 when the polarizing film is arranged in a crossed Nicol.

16. (previously presented): A polarizing film according to claim 15, which is of a transmission type.

17. (previously presented): A polarizing film according to claim 15, which is of a reflective type.

18. (new): A method of manufacturing a polarizing film having an absorbance comprising an absorption peak A in a wavelength range of 550 to 650 nm and an absorption peak B in a wavelength range of 450 to 520 nm, and having an absorbance characteristics ratio (absorption peak A/absorption peak B) of no more than 1.5 when the polarizing film is arranged in a crossed Nicol, said method comprising:

impregnating a film comprising hydrophilic polymers with a dichromatic dyestuff; and

stretching the film in a dyeing bath,

wherein the stretching operation is conducted while controlling the retardation such that a retardation of the film, when measured using a light with a wavelength of 900 nm, does not exceed 1100 nm.

19. (new): The method of claim 18, wherein the retardation, when measured using a light with a wavelength of 900 nm, is in the range of 10 to 1050 nm.

20. (new): The method of claim 19, wherein the retardation, when measured using a light with a wavelength of 900 nm, is in the range of 100 to 1000 nm.